

Regional Interagency Coordinating Committee Minutes from 10/20/2004

Consensus on Minutes of previous meeting. Potential members - Shelley Hauge from Child's Hope Learning Center and Angela Johnson from MedCenter One.

Opening Doors proposal - not issued from DD Department yet.

CSCC - still in place - hiring an overall coordinator (Melanie Hicamp - Chair for Region 8 CSCC) and the CSCC still wants to be involved with RICC.

Update from Jody Bettger-Huber

- \$15,000 - grants for childcare providers (writing mini grants).
- \$35,000 - to be decided how to use.

Update from Roxane Romanick

- Attended state ICC meeting yesterday and Deb Balsdon said that Early Childhood Tracking on Standing Rock is one step away from being licensed to provide Infant Development.

Update from Michelle Hougen

- Concern that there still has been no word from Standing Rock regarding the contract for EI consultants sent last Spring. Michelle said that it would help families with the transition process when the program changes from BECEP to EC Tracking. It would also free up some of the EI staff who travel to Standing Rock.
- Jody said that there has been confusion as to who is providing Right Track services on Standing Rock - possibly providing mass screening. Is EC Tracking in Sioux County the same as EC Tracking at United Tribes?
- Andrea said that EC Tracking at United Tribes only screens the kids in the daycare.

Discussion held on Part C and Part B dollars.

Roxane said Jimmy Starr is the new representative on the State ICC.

Group suggested that a person from United Tribes be represented on our RICC.

Roxane updated the committee on the Family Connections Conference. Next conference is in early June in Fargo.

September Board meeting of State ICC - out of compliance in state stipend reimbursement - must be limited to those losing wages by coming to meeting.

Discussion as to how to tackle two documents: RICC Quality Improvement Plan and list of state-required compliance data to be collected.

Compliance Data - in February will get Executive Summary on state compliance data. Deb said that ID programs will get training in December on the monitoring/continuous improvement process from the state. Deb said that we will probably have to look at one cluster each quarter.

Discussion on Child Find Compliance items:

- Question on 5B - there is difficulty qualifying children in speech/language because they have to be 50% or lower on combined expressive and receptive language.
- 8 & 18 - need to know what children we're missing - who is receiving therapy at hospital and not in DD system. Angela suggested that a survey be completed with therapists at hospital. Suggestion made to have presentations to hospital on ID services.
- Special populations - need to look at on a regular basis to see if population in region changes. Efforts will be focused on 5C and 5H.
- 10. Need to look at percent of children referred to EI from Right Track who were eligible for EI.
- 13. "Informed Clinical" high in our Region, so this is an area we need to keep statistics on.
- Regarding parent survey - Sandy mentioned concern that parents need to know what could be available to them before they complete the survey, or the data will be skewed.

Sandy asked the difference between multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary teams. Michelle said that transdisciplinary means that all professionals/parents are training or coaching each other.

Dorothy said that on Standing Rock there are regular meetings of childcare providers for the purpose of training and sharing ideas.

Discussion of natural learning opportunities that must be provided in ID programs. Services must not only be provided in the child's natural environment (home, childcare), but also integrated into the child's daily activities.

Discussion held on the lack of daycare for preschoolers in Bismarck and across the Region.

Sandy said she would like to see our RICC go to the state for incentives for people to work in the childcare setting.

Roxane - look into child care as a priority area for our region - discuss at February meeting.

Discussion held on families participating in eligibility meeting. Families are not invited at this point, but Lorri said that they should ask family if they want to be involved. The eligibility criteria for ID is fairly cut and dried. Sandy suggested that this be part of the process for families.

Committee decided to have 1 or 2 people on RICC who are parents of children in EI currently.

Discussion held on the formal complaint process for families. Families need to know what the process is.

Transition

- Needs to be a follow-up survey 3 months after transition. Discussion held on continued IFSP or writing an IEP for a child by the 3rd birthday. There may be an option for an interim IEP that could be used in the transition process. Suggestion made to have child visit the preschool classroom to get to know preschool staff before the child turns 3.

Roxane distributed and discussed the "Recommendations for New Committee Members". Dorothy made the suggestion of Ellen Murphy who works at Sitting Bull College. She also suggested Karen Maui. Marilyn Bender, Easter Seals, has agreed to serve on the committee.

Roxane will send out an e-mail to all RICC members requesting approval of the RICC's recommendation that new members receive orientation.

Decision to have half day (9-noon) meeting on May 11 and follow-up meeting on June 1. Meetings - August 17, November 16.